

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC, Salinas Police Arrest Three Cab Drivers for Furnishing Alcohol to Minors

ABC says this is the second time in less than three months

(Salinas) - California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control Investigators and Salinas Police Officers have arrested three Salinas area cab drivers for purchasing alcohol and delivering it to minors. Authorities say this is the second time this has occurred in the past three months. On February 23, 2007, the Salinas Police Department along with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) conducted an operation in Salinas where taxi cab drivers were called and asked to deliver alcohol to a specific location. During the operation three cab drivers furnished alcoholic beverages to minors. Several complaints had been received from parents of minors to the police department and to the Salinas District Office of ABC regarding minors calling up cab companies in the City of Salinas and having alcoholic beverages delivered to them.

A similar operation that was run on December 22, 2006 resulted in violations as well. In that operation, drivers from three taxi cab companies were contacted in the City of Salinas and alcoholic beverages were requested to be delivered. Drivers from all three cab companies delivered the alcohol to minors who were part of a decoy operation. The three cab drivers were cited for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors, a violation of section 25658 (a) of the California Business and Professions Code.

On the February 23rd operation four taxi cab companies were contacted, one driver refused and three drivers delivered the alcohol to decoys and they were cited for furnishing alcohol to a minor. Furnishing alcohol to minors can result in a fine of \$1,000 and up to 6 months in county jail. None of the drivers cited during the most recent operation had been cited in the December enforcement operation.

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ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale Bonner.